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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE DRYING OF NATURAL GAS

(57) Abstract

A system for removing water from natural gas which comprises: bringing the natural gas into contact with a liquid including an absorbent for the water; subjecting the natural gas and liquid to turbulent mixing conditions thereby causing the water to be absorbed by the absorbent; and separating a natural gas phase with reduced water content and a liquid phase including the absorbent and absorbed water. The mixing is conducted in a turbulent contactor (11) including a gas inlet (15), a liquid inlet (16), an outlet (104) leading to a venturi passage (105) and a tube (106) extending from the outlet (104) back upstream. The tube (106) may be perforated and/or spaced from the periphery of the outlet (104).

